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FALSE MEMORY SYNDROME FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

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Dear Friends,

"The most painful thing anyone can do to her loved ones is to remove herself from their lives without giving them any say."<sup>[1]</sup>

This statement, which appeared in an advice column, will certainly ring true to FMS families. The challenge to families and professionals, now that we have some idea of the circumstances that led offspring to make unilateral cut-offs, is to facilitate family reconciliation. That is the purpose of our recent survey.

With most of the data in, we can make some general comments about the results. The first and most important comment is: "Thank you." Recalling the painful events that led you to contact the Foundation is not an enjoyable activity. Your efforts, however, may lead both to a better understanding of the dynamics of family reconciliation and to ways in which therapists may help other families. That is what we are working toward.

The overall demographic data of the survey are consistent with past surveys: Dads are implicated in over 75 percent of the accusations and about 90 percent of the accusers are daughters. About 99 percent of the families who responded to the survey are Caucasian. For approximately 45 percent of the accusers, college was the highest level of education completed and 32 percent completed graduate school. Most of the accusers were between 25 and 40 years old at the time they made the accusation and the bulk of the accusations came between 1989 and 1994 with 1991 and 1992 being the peak years. The vast majority of accusers were in therapy at the time the accusations were made and about 18 percent of the accusations involved claims of satanic ritual abuse.

The range in age from when the abuse was alleged to have started was 0 to 18 years; the range for when the alleged abuse ended was 1 to 50 years. About a quarter of respondents indicated that a confrontation had taken place in a therapy session. About half of the families reported that the accusations were vague and many people were never even told what they were supposed to have done. Slightly more families reported that the accusations had been kept

private rather than made public, and about 10 percent had some type of legal action taken against them. Over 36 percent of the families indicated that they had a "returner," and a bit under 80 percent of these returners have not discussed the subject. Approximately 65 percent of retractors returned to the family before they retracted. The length of time families were separated from the accusing offspring ranged from 0 to 23 years.

We will share more survey results in the next newsletter and we anticipate a report from a family that is in the process of reuniting after 18 years of separation.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if one of these days the topic of families reconnecting will become as popular in novels as family disintegration has been or, more recently, books about recovered memory?

A reviewer recently commented: "Even at a time when mysteries concerning repressed memories threaten to become a subgenre..."<sup>[2]</sup> And there certainly are *many* mysteries, novels and memoirs in which recovered memories keep the plot moving. We recall our excitement back in 1995 when the first novels in which false memories were mentioned along with recovered memories began to appear. There are now so many that it is beyond our ability to keep track of them. This summer, a Newsletter reader sent us *The Syndrome*, a "thriller" by John Case. For anyone interested in seeing how the topics of "memory" and "false memory" are being handled in popular literature in 2001, this is a good book to read.

How times have changed! We recall that in 1993, a syndicated columnist who wrote in support of the notion of false memories was met with such a barrage of protest that

***In this issue...***

<i>Feld</i> .....	5
<i>Legal Corner</i> .....	6
<i>Bartha</i> .....	7
<i>Pendergrast</i> .....	8
<i>Berry</i> .....	9
<i>From Our Readers</i> .....	10
<i>Bulletin Board</i> .....	14

*The next issue will be combined November/December*

his column was removed from many papers. It's difficult to remember what the climate was like and even harder to believe it could have existed. In the early 90s the prevailing view was that there could not be a "false" memory of abuse.

So much has changed. For example, people in Wenatchee who had been jailed in the sex abuse trials in 1994 are starting to receive large awards for the poor investigations of their cases, and the Pardon Board in Massachusetts has recommended that Gerald Amirault be released from prison. But have things really changed? In this issue Allen Feld writes of his concern that the seeds that grew into the FMS tragedy are still around and can sprout again. Certainly the overt hostility has cooled, but there is still much bitterness as one can see in the following quote:

"She has added immeasurably to our understanding of how people remember ordinary events," admitted Bessel van der Kolk, a Boston University professor of psychiatry and an expert in trauma. Still, the very first words out of his mouth when he was contacted were: 'Don't publish anything favourable about Elizabeth Loftus.'"

Foss, K. "Memory bites," *The Globe and Mail*, July 14, 2001.

Within the scientific community, researchers continue to make giant strides in understanding false memories. Indeed, memory research in the 90s has seen phenomenal progress. Last year the first handbook of memory<sup>[3]</sup> was published. It is remarkable in that about 50 percent of the references are from the 90s—and yes, there is a section about recovered memories of childhood abuse.

In this issue we report on a summary of research findings from Richard J. McNally and his colleagues. The researchers compared groups of people who said they had repressed memories, recovered memories, or continuous memories of childhood abuse. The results are the first to provide any data on the cognitive functioning in the very people who have been at the heart of the recovered memory controversy, and the results challenge some common beliefs. They also raise the debate to a higher plain.

The Foundation has continued to respond to changes in family, cultural and intellectual climate. We are continuing to streamline all administrative functions and to move in the direction of providing information on the internet. We invite all readers who have not yet visited the FMSF website to do so and to give us your comments and suggestions. Do we hear someone saying, "But I don't have a computer!" You

#### special thanks

We extend a very special "Thank you" to all of the people who help prepare the FMSF Newsletter. *Editorial Support:* Toby Feld, Allen Feld, Janet Fetkewicz, Howard Fishman, Peter Freyd. *Columnists:* August Piper, Jr. and Members of the FMSF Scientific Advisory Board. *Letters and information:* Our Readers.

don't need your own computer; you can go to your local library where someone will help you make the visit to the FMSF address ([www.FMSFonline.org](http://www.FMSFonline.org)).

The Foundation still has much work to complete: the research on reconciliation, the web site, and the preservation of family stories and other material for both future study and as a reminder of what can go wrong when professionals neglect to ground their practice in science.

In late October, Lee Arning and Charles Caviness, co-chairs of the FMSF Fundraising Committee, will be sending you a letter asking you to continue your generous support of the Foundation. In the past, the annual fund raising drive was a separate event, but this year the fund raising drive is combined with the annual dues reminder. Beginning in January 2002, all members will be on the same January 1 to December 31 schedule. This change should result in less administrative work.

In closing, we say "Thank you" once again for your support. FMSF couldn't exist physically without your financial support, nor could it exist intellectually without your ideas. Your letters and ideas are what make this newsletter special.

Pamela

1. Carolyn Hax, *Albuquerque Journal*, Jul 13, 2001.
2. Pierce, J.K. "Blast from the Past," *Seattle Weekly*, Aug 2, 2001.
3. Tulving, E. & Craik, F. (Editors) *Oxford Handbook of Memory*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

#### Note:

Readers may be interested in three books about reconnecting in families. Unfortunately, none has an answer for how to reconnect with an offspring who has unilaterally withdrawn and who refuses any contact.

LeBey, B. *Family Estrangements: How they begin, How to mend them, How to cope with them*, Atlanta: Longstreet, 2001.

McGoldrick, M. *You Can go Home Again: Reconnecting with Your Family*, New York: Norton, 1995.

Netzger, C. *Cut offs: How family members who sever relationships can reconnect*, Farr Hills: NJ: New Horizon, 1996.

"Memory is, however, not like a photograph that may fade with time, but not change its outlines. Memory is a painting repeatedly touched up and "corrected" when times past are summoned. If this seems a fanciful metaphor, consider the research report by Nader and colleagues (2000). They report that each time it is called into use, "consolidated" memory in the amygdala becomes "labile" and requires new protein synthesis for its reconsolidation. It is not likely to be reencoded in precisely the same form. What any of us "remember" is not quite what "actually" happened. The best one can do is reconstruct the past as faithfully as one can. Where independent sources exist, I have consulted them."

Eisenberg, L. "The past 50 years of child and adolescent psychiatry: A personal memoir" *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 743, Jul 2001.

# The Cognitive Psychology of Repressed and Recovered Memories of Childhood Sexual Abuse:

## Clinical Implications

Richard J. McNally

*Psychiatric Annals* 31 8/August 2001, 509-514.

This article provides a summary of the first set of experiments on cognitive functioning in persons reporting either repressed or recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse. Four groups of women were recruited via newspaper announcements: (1) those who believe they were sexually abused as children, but who have no memory for these events ("repressed" memory group); (2) those who report having recalled long-forgotten episodes of childhood sexual abuse ("recovered" memory group); (3) those who report never having forgotten their childhood sexual abuse ("continuous" memory group); and (4) those who report never having been sexually abused ("control" group).

**Personality** McNally and his colleagues used the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire to assess personality, and the Dissociative Experiences Scale; the Beck Depression Inventory; and the civilian version of the Mississippi Scale for Combat-Related PTSD to assess clinical symptoms. The researchers found that "the repressed memory group was the most psychologically distressed, the most prone to experience negative affective states, the most dissociative and the most prone to absorption and, therefore, perhaps, the most hypnotizable. . . . Recovered memory participants tended to fall midway between continuous and repressed memory participants on most measures."

**Guided Imagery** has been suggested as one of the therapeutic techniques that may lead to false memories. The researchers tested whether women reporting recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse were more susceptible than nonabused control participants to this technique. The results indicated that merely imagining certain events boosted confidence that the events had occurred and that this effect was more than twice as large for the nonabused group than for the recovered memory group, a result that is inconsistent with the prediction.

In the **False Recognition** experiment, participants hear a series of words and then later are asked to recognize whether certain words were in the list. (For example: sour, bitter, candy, sugar with "sweet" as a false target.) The results showed that "the more dissociation a participant reported in everyday life, the more likely she was to exhibit false memory effects in the experiment." McNally notes two clinical implications:

First, "individuals who are alert to the memory-distorting aspects of imagination may be able to counteract a tendency to fall prey to false memory effects."

Second, "relative to other participants, those reporting recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse rely more on

gist memory." The experiment suggests that recovered memory participants are characterized by an information-processing style that may render them prone to believing they experienced certain events when, in fact, they experienced other, broadly similar events.

**Directed Forgetting** has been hypothesized as a mechanism with which abused children may cope with stressors by directing their attention elsewhere. In this experiment, groups were composed as follows: survivors of childhood sexual abuse with PTSD, psychiatrically healthy survivors, and nonabused controls. The participants viewed a series of neutral, positive or trauma-related words on a computer screen. After each word, they were told either to forget or to remember the word. If survivors of childhood sexual abuse with PTSD are characterized by an enhanced ability to disengage attention, they ought to exhibit impaired memory for trauma words when asked to recall them.

None of the groups showed enhanced ability to forget trauma-related material. The author states, "Survivors of childhood sexual abuse with PTSD remembered trauma-related material all too well."

**Selective Processing of Trauma Cues** is a robust effect in PTSD participants. This has been measured in a modified Stroop color-naming experiment in which words of varying emotional content are shown in different colors. Participants are instructed to name the colors and ignore the meanings. People with PTSD regularly show more interference for words related to their traumatic experiences. In contrast to results common for patients with PTSD, none of the people in the childhood sexual abuse groups demonstrated trauma-related Stroop interference.

Four provisional conclusions are suggested:

First, individuals reporting repressed or recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse report more symptoms of psychological distress and they display elevated scores on measures of dissociation and absorption.

Second, individuals reporting recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse can counteract the memory-distorting effects of guided imagery in an experimental context, but they fall prey to false memory effects in a false recognition task.

Third, individuals reporting repressed or recovered memories of abuse did not exhibit the predicted superior ability to forget trauma-related material in the laboratory.

Fourth, unlike patients with posttraumatic stress disorder, including those who have suffered sexual assault, individuals reporting repressed or recovered memories of sexual abuse did not exhibit delayed color-naming of trauma words on the emotional Stroop task.



## **"A Demonstration and Comparison of Two Types of Inference-Based Memory Errors"**

Hannigan, S. L. & Reinitz, M. T., *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, Vol 27, No. 4, 931-940

Full text available [www.apa.org/journals/xlm/xlm274931.html](http://www.apa.org/journals/xlm/xlm274931.html)

Hannigan and Reinitz showed slides of scenes from settings such as a grocery store or restaurant to 144 participants. The slides depicted events such as dishes spilling as a meal is ordered, without showing the causes. Participants were questioned one or two days later. Researchers found that people "fill in the blanks" in their memories and claimed to have seen slides not originally presented that fit the scene's narrative. To explain a spill in the grocery store scene, for example, many claimed to have seen a picture of someone pulling an orange from a pile of fruit. Errors increased with the passage of time. According to a July 1, 2001 press release from the American Psychological Association, this is the first study that shows that memory errors result when "people make inferences about the the underlying causes of events." Previous studies have demonstrated schema-based memory errors.

## **"Victimized by 'Victims': A taxonomy of antecedents of false complaints against psychotherapists"**

Martin H. Williams

*Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, Feb 2000 Vol 31 (1) 75-81.

Williams provides six anecdotes to demonstrate false claims brought against therapists by patients. His analysis of reasons why such false claims might be brought are: (a) malin-gering and fraud, (b) revenge, (c) psychopathology, (d) "recovered" memory, (e) doctrinaire suggestions from subsequent therapist, and (f) escape from unwanted treatment. He com-

ments that "The emotional toll on the accused is significant, as the outcome may be unknown for years. One would expect that a great deal of anxiety would be attendant to the possibility of losing one's ability to practice one's chosen profession while simultaneously needing to find a new way to make a living. Even with eventual vindication, one may need to live with the experience of shame, knowing that one's peers may not offer the benefit of doubt, may be spreading rumors, and may assume that 'where there's smoke, there's fire'."

## **Baylor Cancels Deal with Menninger**

Last year the prestigious Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kansas announced that it was planning to move to Houston, Texas and affiliate with Baylor College of Medicine. On July 31, 2001, however, Dr. Walt Menninger, chief executive officer, announced that negotiations had failed.

Staying in Topeka is not an option for Menninger because trustees have made a commitment that the only way to provide the best quality treatment would be for Menninger to be tied to a medical school in a metropolitan area.

Menninger has been winding down for the past year. In September 2000 it employed 900 people but now employs 450 and intends to cut another 90 soon. The hospital has reduced its licensed beds from 143 to 95. In September, 2000, the Menninger Foundation had \$100 million and this year is has \$90 million. According to hospital president Ian Aitken, "expenses continue to exceed revenues, although less so than they did last year."

Hooper, M., "Menninger move halted," *Topeka Capital Journal*, 8/1/01.

Babson, R. "Urgency has faded this time," *Kansas City Star*, 8/8/01.

## **It's Never Too Late**

A man in his 70s has filed a \$4 million lawsuit against the Archdiocese of Portland claiming that he was sexually abused by a priest when he was an altar boy during the 1940s. The priest he has accused died 30 years ago.

Under Oregon law, victims of child abuse may file claims decades after the alleged abuse occurred. The statute of limitations in Oregon says a victim must file within three years of becoming aware of the psychological or other damage caused by the abuse. The plaintiff said he recognized connections between his problems and his childhood abuse in the summer of 2000. He blames past alcohol and marriage problems as well as homophobia toward a gay son on the abuse he says he suffered so many years ago..

The Oregon Supreme Court ruled in 1999 that the archdiocese can be held liable as the employer of an abusive priest.

George, J. "Former altar boy sues church over abuse," *Register-Guard* (OR), 7/28/01.

In 1997 a 71-year-old Ontario man launched a suit against an orphanage in New Brunswick claiming he was abused there in the late 1930s and 1940s. Justice McLellan dismissed the case noting that it was filed too late and that he was concerned about "flash-backs" or recovered memories.

The plaintiff is trying to have the case reopened and he is also seeking financial assistance.

Gleaner, E. "Ontario man wants trial looking into claims of abuse at N.B. orphanage," *The Canadian Press*, 8/8/01.

"The whole 'recovered memory' fracas, and the witch burning craze in which hundreds of daycare workers and dads have been consumed, is based on the Freudian belief that the Unconscious stores memories like a pickle jar, permanently and perfectly (it doesn't)"

Andrew Struthers, "Freud's contributions to 'pop culture'" *Vancouver Sun*, July 7, 2001.

## The Seeds that Spawned FMSF: Are They Still There?

Allen Feld

Many chapters in history books describe citizens who joined together to correct what they believed were grievous mistakes—mistakes causing injustice, pain and unhappiness. The seeds that brought about the need for an organization like the False Memory Syndrome Foundation were sown when certain members of society's helping professions abandoned verifiable facts and science-based principles and when legal institutions ignored their noble objective of seeking justice through truth.

Although only a minority of professionals were responsible for the harm done to families, the silence of the vast majority of professionals is to me the saddest aspect of this debacle.

It may well be that economic interests played a part in this unfortunate episode. At the same time that an increasing number of organizations and therapists sought additional or new sources of revenues, an increase in public awareness about abuse was occurring. Society's awakened concern about abuse became the source of potential major revenue.

Despite their frequent and fervent assertions to the contrary, both the national professional associations and the state or local licensing boards failed to monitor their constituents and to protect the public. It became evident that there was a need for an organization like the FMSF.

Almost a decade after its inception, the Foundation now receives far fewer calls from families who say they are falsely accused. There are far fewer suits against families and courts are treating such families more fairly. The burgeoning number of research and scientific articles triggered by the false memory fiasco has created a more complete and balanced understanding of the malleability of memory and the power of suggestibility in memory

retrieval. Unfortunately, at the same time there are far too many families that have not reunited. Sadly, too many adult offspring continue to hold on to their false memories and are still struggling, at least in part, with the erroneous beliefs created by those false memories.

I believe that the seeds that spawned FMSF are still present. I am convinced that many clinicians still fail to embrace science. The application of science in treating clients with psychological or emotional concerns has historically been uneven at best. But in addition, misinformation about aspects of human development, memory, suggestibility and other significant psychological phenomena are deeply entrenched in many quarters.

I recently read an article that reinforced how psychoanalytic theory continues to be an important cornerstone for therapy in some quarters.<sup>[1]</sup> Psychoanalytic theory relies heavily on the notion that most adult pathology has its roots in very early childhood trauma and that in order to reduce the client's current problems, these early "forgotten memories" need to be uncovered.<sup>[2]</sup> While psychoanalytic therapy may help some patients, the theory contains the seeds that lead to the creation of false memories.

Although the need for an organization such as the FMSF may have abated, society should remain vigilant. The seeds for similar episodes may only be dormant and not extinguished.

When the history of the FMS episode is written, I hope it will treat with accuracy and great respect the efforts made by falsely accused families and courageous professionals in establishing a remarkable hybrid grass roots/establishment organization consisting of professionals and non-professionals. As a one-time student and teacher of community organization, I believe it will. Scholars who study organizations, however, will have to make a more objective determination

than I can of the role that this diverse group played in responding to problems caused when some valued societal institutions failed in their responsibility to monitor and regulate their own constituents.

1. Batz, J. "Mind Over Matter." *Riverfront Times*, July 25-31, 2001. pp 20-29.
2. p. 26.

*Allen Feld is Director of Continuing Education for the FMS Foundation. He has retired from the faculty of the School of Social Work at Marywood University in Pennsylvania.*



### From Canada

"In 1996, newspaper columnist Michele Landsberg compared skeptics of repressed memory—a theory whose advocates say it is possible to forget horrific events for decades and then suddenly 'remember' them accurately—to Holocaust deniers. She speculated that within five years, they would 'have vanished from the scene, utterly discredited... the scientific research is mounting up.' Those five years have come and gone and it is the theory of repressed memory that is on history's trash heap."

"Common sense has finally won the day. Psychiatric associations on both sides of the Atlantic have cautioned courts against convicting people of sex crimes solely on the basis of recovered memory. United States courts have overturned numerous convictions. Leaders in the recovered memory movement have been stripped of their licenses to practice, or surrendered them voluntarily. Juries have awarded millions in damages to people who sued their therapists for malpractice."

"The evidence has never been more compelling that 'repressed' and 'recovered' memories are highly suspect."

Editorial  
*National Post*, June 15, 2001

### Wenatchee Update

On July 31, 2001, Honnah and Jonathan Sims were awarded \$3 million after a three-week civil trial. The Spokane jury found Douglas County and the city of Wenatchee negligent during the 1994 and 1995 sex-abuse investigations. Sims, a Sunday-school teacher at the Pentecostal church led by Pastor Roby Roberson, had been charged with molestation, jailed, and acquitted by a jury in 1995.

The jury also concluded the city and county were negligent in the investigations of Pastor Roby Roberson and his wife Connie, who spent 155 days in jail before they were acquitted. The jury said that the city of Wenatchee was negligent in the case of Donna Rodriguez, a parishioner of the church, whose charges were dismissed in 1996 when four of her five accusers recanted their stories. Despite these conclusions, the jury determined that the negligence did not meet the requisite standards for monetary damages in the cases of the Robersons and Rodriguez.

The \$3 million award is a record for litigation arising from Wenatchee sex cases. In 1998, the late state social worker Juana Vasquez was awarded \$1.57 million after a jury found that she had been retaliated against for criticizing the investigations. She continued to advocate for the Wenatchee defendants until her untimely death.

The 1994-1995 investigations resulted in 60 adults being arrested on 29,726 charges of child sex abuse involving 43 children. All 18 people convicted in the Wenatchee "sex ring" cases have now been freed either because their cases were overturned or because they agreed to plea agreements to get out of prison.

Douglas County sheriff, Dan LaRoche said he believes the county's insurance carrier, Hartford Insurance Co of Connecticut will pick up the entire award. Plaintiff's attorney Robert Van Siclen said that during settlement talks, he was told by Stan Bastian, the attorney for Douglas County that the county's policy limit was \$1 million.

Honnah Sims said that the jury's characterization of the police investigation as "negligent" was more important than winning a monetary award. She noted that the award may portend the outcomes in pending cases. Although she and the Robersons had been acquitted, "many others convicted in the cases spent years in prison and permanently lost their children, which will ring more powerfully with juries."<sup>(1)</sup>

During the trial, it was learned that Pastor Roby Roberson is still under investigation by police for alleged abuse. Bastian said Roberson's 11-year-old daughter,

Rebecca, was the focus of the investigation. "Children that show deviant behavior at a young age are often victims of abuse themselves," Bastian said.

Roberson said the stigma of the case still haunts his family. "You walk around on egg shells. You're looking over your shoulder all the time; it's constant harassment."

Defendants in the case were Detective Robert Perez, former Wenatchee Police Chief Ken Badley; Douglas County Sheriff Dan LaRoche and county detectives Robbin Wagg and Dave Helvey. Plaintiffs were represented by Robert Van Siclen. Pat McMahon was the attorney for the city of Wenatchee and Stan Bastian the attorney for Douglas County.

1. Barber, M. "Victim of Wenatchee sex-abuse investigators bears no ill will." *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, Aug 10, 2001.

Information for this article also from Dundas, C., Associated Press, July 11, 2001

### Amirault Update

On July 6, 2001, in a 5-0 ruling, the Massachusetts Parole Board recommended that the governor commute the sentence of Gerald "Tooky" Amirault.<sup>(1)</sup> The 24-page ruling stated: "The case was replete with inconsistent and conflicting judicial opinions concerning whether justice was done." The ruling noted that "It is clearly a matter of public knowledge that, at the minimum, real and substantial doubt exists concerning [the] petitioner's conviction," and "Gerald Amirault has demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence that his further incarceration would constitute gross unfairness, because of...the severity of sentence in comparison to the sentence[s] received by codefendants." The Parole Board wrote: "In the end this is a case of simple, fundamental fairness."

Gerald Amirault was convicted in 1986 in one of the 30 or so day care cases that appeared around the country in the wake of McMartin. He was sentenced to 30-to-40 years and has served 15. His mother and sister, however, received 8-to-20 year sentences. No corroborating physical evidence and no testimony from a teacher or visitor at the school supported the allegations.

The Parole Board recommendation has been sent to Massachusetts Governor Jane Swift. If she agrees with the recommendation, the commutation would be sent to the governor's Council which makes the final decision.

1. Ruling available at [www.ultranet.com/~kyp/parole.html](http://www.ultranet.com/~kyp/parole.html)

Following are some of the comments about this case that have appeared in the media:

"In retrospect, the case seems the product of an impassioned movement spawned in the 1980s, a combination of newfound awareness of sexual abuse, families torn by divorce, psychologists' championing of victims, and a more sensational mass media." Raja Mishra, "State panel votes to free Amirault: a legacy of doubt, hysteria," *Boston Globe*, July 7, 2001.

"Let me tell you one thing. I did not lie," said a woman in

her 20s, who said she was a toddler when she was abused. 'How could we (the victims) all come up with the same stories if we were not molested by monsters?'" Associated Press, "Fells Acres victims fearful about Amirault's potential release," July 7, 2001.

"Studies have shown that children will vehemently defend the veracity of implanted memories. They recall reporting them, and those reports produce mental images of the events that these individuals cannot distinguish from their real experiences. But the kids are not responsible for that. The interviews are." Debra Poole, Ph.D. quoted in "Memories questions: Studies say kids can be easily led," Tom Mashberg, *Boston Herald*, July 8, 2001.

"It is essential to keep in mind now that most children with such implanted memories will have believed in their allegations of abuse for far longer than they were alive before those allegations first surfaced. These 'implanted' memories are no less visceral than real-life memories." Stephen Ceci, Ph.D., quoted in "Memories questions: Studies say kids can be easily led," Tom Mashberg, *Boston Herald*, July 8, 2001.

"Long after this case is over and the last Amirault has left prison, it will be worth remembering the aspects of character that made it possible for them [the Amirault family] to endure. Among them we can count their courage to refuse false confessions that might have helped win their freedom." Dorothy Rabinowitz, "Gerald Amirault has reason to celebrate," *Wall Street Journal*, July 9, 2001.

"Everyone had to have their own sex crimes case and everyone started targeting daycare centres. We just suspended intellectual integrity. We believed the abused when it came to child abuse cases." Kimberly Hart, in Jan Cienski, "Man at heart of 1980s child abuse case may be freed: Daycare worker convicted on recovered memories," *National Post* (Canada) July 10, 2001.

"The job within our legal system is to prove that [the accused] did what

they were accused of, and given the evidence we now have on how easy it is to influence children, the state failed." Pamela Freyd in Jan Cienski, "Man at heart of 1980s child abuse case may be freed: Daycare worker convicted on recovered memories," *National Post* (Canada) July 10, 2001.

### Braun Update

Bennett Braun, M.D. has surfaced in Helena, Montana where he has been working at the Shodair Children's Hospital. Former workers at the hospital claim that Braun has been treating patients, but a hospital executive denies the allegations. The claims have prompted the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to investigate.

Dr. Braun, who was once director of the dissociative disorders program at Rush Presbyterian Medical Center in Chicago, surrendered his medical license in Illinois over allegations he used drugs and hypnosis to convince a patient she killed scores of people in satanic rituals. He settled a lawsuit with the patient for over \$10 million.

Dr. Braun did not admit any of the allegations and says the case was settled against his will. He is suing the attorneys and the insurance companies who represented him for \$20 million.

Before he lost his license, Braun was earning about \$300,000 a year, but the legal fight tapped all his savings. He was unemployed for a while, then had a job as a night watchman before employment at the hospital. The job at Shodair pays about \$28,000.

Anez, B., "Former workers claim suspended doctor was involved in treatment," Associated Press, Aug 1, 2001.

Anez B., "Montana board to investigate psychiatrist whose medical license was suspended in Illinois," Associated Press, Aug 3, 2001.



### Assistants Plead Guilty in Rebirthing Death

Jaye D. Bartha

Disposition hearings for Jack McDaniels, 48, and Brita St.Clair, 42,

the assistants present at the rebirthing session that killed ten-year-old Candace Newmaker in April, 2000, were held before Jefferson County District Judge Jane Tidball in Golden, Colorado on August 2, 2001.

Both McDaniels and St.Clair, now married, pled guilty to criminally negligent child abuse resulting in death, a class III felony which carries no mandatory prison term. The sentences, scheduled for October 4, carry a possible 4-16 year prison term, 5 years parole after sentence completion, and a \$3,000 - \$750,000 fine.

Connell Watkins, 55, and Julie Ponder, 41, the psychotherapists who swaddled young Candace in a flannel sheet during a "rebirthing" procedure designed to "cure" attachment disorder, but instead resulted in suffocation, were convicted of reckless child abuse resulting in death, a class II felony, and are serving mandatory 16-year prison terms.

Jefferson County Prosecutor, Steve Jensen, said it was necessary to "make a distinction between the levels of responsibility" in the charges against those convicted in the killing. He concluded, "Admitting to criminal negligence means they [Mc Daniels and St. Clair] exhibited a gross deviation from the standard of care and posed a substantial risk to the child." Mr. Jensen added that "no sentence concessions" were made with the defendants.

From his North Carolina home Candace's grandfather, David Davis stated, "Unless they are mindless creatures who are not responsible for their actions, they should go to prison. These are dangerous people because they do what they are instructed regardless of the consequences."

Candace's adoptive mother, Jeane Newmaker, 48, a nurse practitioner, also charged with criminally negligent child abuse resulting in death, is scheduled for trial in early November.





## Seeds for Problems

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Allen Feld comments on the seeds that spawned FMSF and expresses his concern that, though dormant, they are still abundant and could sprout if the conditions are favorable. There is plenty of evidence to support his anxiety. Families from around the country continue to send brochures of continuing education programs that raise alarm.

It seems like "*deja vu* -all over again" to read that in October in Portland, Seattle and Anchorage there will be continuing education seminars entitled "Helping Adult and Child Survivors of Trauma and Abuse." Although there is no mention of "false memories" in the topics to be covered, codependency, transgenerational trauma and abuse, "disassociative" disorders and attachment disorders will be taught by a masters level leader. Continuing education credit for social workers, licensed professional counselors, and psychologists are provided through the company that sponsors the seminars: Medical Educational Services in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. (It was in Eau Claire that the recent \$5 million was awarded to parents of a daughter who developed false memories in therapy.)

There remain serious concerns about religious counseling that ignores the body of scientific evidence on the dangers of creating false memories. The fastest growing recovered memory program of which we are aware is Theophostic Counseling. Those who might be curious are encouraged to go to the Theophostic Counseling website ([www.theophostic.com](http://www.theophostic.com)) to examine this program for themselves. A christianity-based challenge to this unsound approach may be found at [www.psychobeheresy-aware.org](http://www.psychobeheresy-aware.org).

A recent article in *Christianity Today* prompted author Mark Pendergrast to speak out:

*Christianity Today* - Editor:

Your favorable story about Theophostic Ministries does a grave disservice to your readers, since it is clear that Ed Smith, the Theophostic founder and guru, believes in and practices so-called recovered memory therapy. Your article states that he works "primarily with victims of childhood sexual abuse," but it is quite likely that many of the people he works with were not, in fact, sexually abused as children, since they did not recall any memories of abuse until they went for therapy. People do not "repress" years of traumatic events. Rather, they recall them all too well.

**'I really do not concern myself with what is factual in a memory. I focus on the emotional pain that is present and look for the belief that is producing it.'**

Ed Smith, Theophostic Counseling

On the Theophostic website, Ed Smith writes that "unless the person is able to return to the original memory event where the lie was first embedded, true release of the emotional pain in the present will not occur." This kind of wording and thinking is all too familiar to me. As I documented in my book, *Victims of Memory*, this type of misguided therapy has harmed rather than healed. It results in misery and destroyed families. Unfortunately, many "Christian" counselors have fallen for it, and Ed Smith appears to be the latest.

Because his wording was somewhat vague, I wrote to Ed Smith to ask his opinion about recovered memories of sexual abuse. His reply was extremely alarming: "I would encourage you to order from us the book, *The Truth About The False Memory Syndrome*, by James Friesen. This book is helpful. I really do not concern myself with what is factual in a memory. I focus on the emotional pain that is present and look for the belief that is producing it."

James Friesen is a true believer in recovered memories and in mythical satanic ritual abuse cults, which have been quite thoroughly debunked. His book totally denies that misguided therapy can lead people to believe in false memories of sexual abuse, and he denies the stories of retractors who have come to realize that they were "had" by bad therapy. Smith's cavalier lack of concern about whether memories of abuse are true or not is shocking. Your readers need to be warned about this man and his theories—not encouraged to seek his help. At a time when recovered memory therapy has been completely discredited, it is amazing to me that Smith is once again practicing it now, in the 21st century. It is particularly distressing that he is doing so in the name of religion, telling people that Jesus is the one who is revealing the "truth" to them.

Yours, Mark Pendergrast  
Author, *Victims of Memory*



"Memories that refuse to fade tend to involve regret, trauma and other potent negative emotions. All emotions strengthen a memory, but negative ones seem to write on the brain in indelible ink, Schacter finds. That's especially true if the memory reinforces your self-image: if you think of yourself as a screw-up, you'll have a hard time erasing the memory of the time you spilled wine all over your boss. Blame your amygdala. When you experience a threatening event like the approach of a menacing stranger, the level of activity in this clutch of brain neurons predicts how well you will remember the experience. Stress hormones seem to strengthen the neuronal circuit that embodies a traumatic memory."

Begley, S. "Memory's mind games," *Newsweek*, July 16, 2001.



**My Story**  
Maxine Berry  
Prepared by Brian Berry

Life is a journey, so am I told. As I look back on my life, there are so many things I wish I could change, but there are also many things that I would not change. I am a survivor of false memory therapy and I have not talked much about it, until now. How could someone as young as I was get caught up in FMS? Actually, it was very easy. It was getting out of the false memory abyss that was more difficult.

My difficulties started just prior to my high school graduation. There are conflicting stories from my parents as to what exactly occurred, but what I relate is told from my understanding of the facts. These facts were not told to me until recently when I was able to read depositions in the malpractice lawsuit that I brought.

My reason for seeking therapy was depression that occurred shortly before my graduation from high school. My records indicate that I was actually suffering from a physical and not a psychological problem, but the psychologist and psychiatrist to whom I turned did not take the time or effort to investigate any physical causes for my symptoms. Instead they jumped to a psychological diagnosis.

The events just prior to my graduation served as the basis for my "therapy." I was stressed about the graduation, perhaps in great part because my father wanted to attend. When I was in the first grade my parents had divorced and that was the last time I saw my father for 20 years. The key event that set the focus for my therapy was the fact that my dad wanted to come and see me graduate, but my mother was strongly opposed. This created tremendous conflict at home and this period in my life was very sad for me.

I was hospitalized for the first time less than a month before my graduation and I remained hospitalized until sometime after graduation. During this

time, my therapist told me horrific things about my father. I now believe that the "flashbacks" and "memories" of abuse I supposedly recovered were induced by my psychiatrist after he talked with my mother. My mother is the one who believed that I had been abused. Many of my supposed "memories" closely corresponded to my mother's beliefs about what had occurred. I learned later from the papers in the lawsuit.

The doctors and therapists communicated what I said about my "recovered memories" to my mother. She never told them or me that these things never happened. I was victimized and my father's name was ruined. To make matters worse, the legal records show that my doctors had been told there was no evidence to support their belief about me being sexually abused by my father.

I was hospitalized many times the next year and that was awful, but during this same time I met the man who was to be my husband, and that was wonderful. I married Brian that year.

It is said that people have 20/20 vision in hindsight. As I look back, I realize my husband was trying to tell me something was not right with my therapy and my therapists. Unfortunately I did not listen to him. Instead I chose to listen to my mother, the therapists, and the doctors. This mistake led to my temporary separation from my husband, but fortunately we were able to overcome this problem. I realized that I needed to make some changes in my life.

I stopped my contact with my mother, I changed doctors, and I decided to research what they were saying to me. Slowly the truth came to the surface; I had been told a fabrication.

But why would my doctors and my mother do such a thing? I believe the doctors and therapists knowingly or unknowingly were influenced by the easy availability of insurance money. I believe my mother was caught up in

emotional revenge and that she saw herself as a heroine who was saving me from the terrible person of my father.

Two people helped me back to reality. The saving forces in my life were my husband and my family doctor. Both told me that there was not much truth to what I had come to believe in therapy.

Shortly after I recognized that my memories were false, I filed suit and started to piece my life back together. I have much to be thankful in addition to the support from my husband and family doctor, I am thankful that I have had the opportunity to meet my father twice.

Unfortunately, my mother continues to be greatly upset that I have established contact with my dad and that makes a very difficult situation for me. I hope that one day we can talk about it and that she is able to see the role that she played in my nightmare and maybe even apologize.

I can't help but feel that if she had done something to prevent the falsehoods from spreading, I would have not have been sterilized. One psychologist who was treating me told me that I had to get my tubes tied because I had been abused. The reasoning is that since I had been abused, I would abuse any child that I might have. If that had not happened, my mother would be enjoying grandchildren now.

I hope that by sharing this story I can prevent more abuse in therapy. I hope I can stir an awareness of how this type of therapy destroys relationships. I hope I can alert people to the harm that can result when therapists believe they know more about a patient's life than she does.

Who would think that a high school graduation could be the catalyst of such a bizarre experience? How wonderful that with the love and support of my husband, I have been able to join the real world.



## Notes from an FMS Meeting in July, 2001

I had to write and tell you about the wonderful FMS meeting we had in July. I learned about the meeting from the notice in the Newsletter and about a dozen of us gathered at 6:00 PM and no one left before 10:00. Our host served us a fine buffet dinner.

This meeting was different from any of the many other FMSF meetings I have attended because it seemed almost everyone present had some current contact with the accuser.

One person told us that he has brought a lawsuit for slander and libel against his sister, the accuser. He was able to get details of her accusation at the pre-trial deposition. The lawsuit is still pending.

In another family, the accuser wants to return to her father, but he refuses to meet with her unless she retracts. He is 82 years old and asked the group what he should do in his will. The accuser and her parents exchange Christmas and birthday cards.

Another couple told us that their accusing daughter will be meeting with them soon. She has not retracted and the parents are apprehensive as to what will happen at the meeting. She accused her father four years ago.

"William" who has four daughters, was accused by one of them about two years ago. He has told all his relatives and friends about the accusations. I thought that was probably not typical. William is not sure that he was right to do that.

"Sally" is the sibling of the accuser. Her father, who has died, was accused of sexual abuse by his daughter in 1980. Sally and her other siblings supported their father. She recounted how she told her teenage nieces and nephews about the accusations in the presence of their respective parents

and that they saw no validity in them.

Another couple was there because the accusing daughter saw a therapist who appears to have no license or special training about 10 years ago. This therapist had told the daughter that she had negative feelings about herself because her mother had failed to bond with her and denied her the love she deserved. The therapist told the daughter to end all contact with the mother. The accusing daughter then brought her brother to the same therapist, and now he has no contact with the parents.

One man said that this was his first FMS meeting and that he had been accused by his daughter about a year and a half ago. After asking his daughter many times what he was accused of, she told him that there was an incident of sexual abuse when she was three years old. She said that this came to her first in a dream. The man related that just before the accusation, he had told his 22-year-old daughter that he disapproved of her relationship with a 53-year-old non-working boyfriend. The daughter has since married the man and the father has stopped sending support money.

As for me, I visited my older daughter and my grandson last week. She gave me pictures of my accusing daughter and her husband and infant son. This was the first I knew of the marriage and grandchild. I was accused ten and a half years ago and have had no contact with the accuser. But I know that I would not have been given the pictures without the consent of the accuser. Should I send a note to her to thank her for the pictures?

It seemed that in almost all the accounts, the accuser had a failed marriage or failed relationship before the accusations.

A Dad

"Memory isn't a record. It's an interpretation, to a large extent."

Mark Reinitz, in "Mind makes memories fonder - but false" *USA Today*, 7/2/01, p.7.

## News from Sacramento Valley

We held our Sacramento Valley annual group meeting at the beginning of June. We sent 45 news flyers and had 15 families attending.

Our agenda was just to catch up with one another and that took up the whole meeting. Everyone asked us to have a meeting again next year—noting that once a year was enough, but it was also necessary.

The new family that contacted us recently did not show, and we have not been able to reach them but intend to follow up. We had one new daughter-father contact after 10 years. A small but welcome breakthrough. Most are still either completely estranged or dealing with a returnee at some stage of contact but no real resolution. Most are reasonably at peace and getting on with their lives—but always with the constant "hole in the heart" none the less.

Volunteer Group Leader

## The Worst Experience

My husband will be 80 in September. I'm doing pretty well. I'll be 80 in November and, Lord willing, if we make it to Valentine's Day, we will be celebrating 60 years of a very happy marriage. The worst experience of our lives has been the separation from our first born.

A Mom

## We Ignored the Problem

Our accusing daughter telephoned the immediate family to invite us to her wedding! Mostly, we ignored the problem. It had done no good trying to reason with her, so we quit trying to talk it through. We just began interacting when the opportunity was presented.

It took four years for her to work it out in her own mind. Some hard physical work (scrubbing and painting an old house) gave her time to think it through. Her new husband remained neutral.

A Mom

## **"A Dad"**

I found the letter from "A Dad" in the last FMSF Newsletter to be most interesting. It hit on many of my thoughts. It has been 12 years since we last heard from our son. In 1989 he charged his father, his mother, and his older brother of molesting him when he was a little boy. He does not contact us, and in fact he has returned our mail unopened. We have quit trying to contact him. Like "A Dad" we have made a new life without him. We have our 5 other children with whom we still have close relations. Unlike "A Dad", we no longer miss our son, and we have deleted him from our wills. He is no longer "our son." We will not accept him unless he grows up, accepts adult responsibility for his actions, and recants the charges he has made.

He has done too much harm to us, including an article in a church magazine, for us to accept him. He conducts twelve-step programs on recovered memories. He seems to be converted to the recovered memory doctrine. In my opinion, he is lost to us forever. I do not expect to see him again. And, today, after 12 years, I no longer care.

Please tell "A Dad" thanks from us.

Another Dad and Mom



## **"A Dad" was Right**

A letter from a father in the July/August edition of the newsletter was entitled Safe Not Sorry. He wrote, "Without a retraction, contact risks the possibility of renewed charges and the potential for lawsuits, criminal charges, etc." He also said, "She's not seeing her therapist anymore. But what if she makes new mistakes or life goes wrong again and she needs reassurance that 'it's not her fault' and she goes back."

My daughter was a returner during the last months of her father's illness and his death in January 1999. She has kept in contact by phone sporadically since then, and I paid her a brief visit in

November. She sent me a Christmas card stating how glad she was that I was back in her life.

This past January, she became unemployed again, was depressed on the anniversary of her father's death and was admitted to a hospital for three weeks. Although I wrote notes or sent cards at least three times a month, there was no response. On July 1 she called again from the waiting room of the hospital. She said she had not been in contact because one of my letters didn't acknowledge other causes for her pain. She began to enumerate instances of physical abuse that were not true. We are back to square one.

Our experience is an example of what this father had written. We need to be careful.

A Mom



## **A Breath of Fresh Air**

The letter from "A Dad" was like a breath of fresh air, a candle that suddenly burst into flame. As I have read the letters from members over the years, I searched for someone who felt like I do. "A Dad" makes me feel that I am not alone.

I have struggled with the idea of behaving as though nothing sad or bad had happened, of being asked to pick up the threads of love, honesty and trust as though these had never been broken. "A Dad" outlined the risks and potential criminal charges that could occur. I believe that those who treat false memory accusations as something trivial do not really understand the devastation.

I wish to thank "A Dad" for his help.

Colleen from New Zealand



## **From Returner to Retractor**

After six years of no contact, our daughter called her mother on Mother's Day 1996. The call was very cordial and made no mention of the accusations. Calls, letters, and cards followed with still no reference to the

alleged abuse. In the fall of 1997, we went to visit our daughter. While we were there, she broke down, cried profusely and said, "You have been the best parents any daughter could have had." There were other similar comments during the emotional but enjoyable visit. There was no mention of the accusations.

In 1998 she visited us in our home. She brought with her a letter from a friend that described another daughter who had come to realize her memories of abuse were false and had been planted in her mind by a therapist. That letter caused my daughter to think of her own situation and she eventually came to the same conclusion—her memories had been false. It took her a long time to sort out the truth from the lies, a painful exercise.

She visited us again and this time she explained to us the therapeutic process that had caused her false memories. We told her that we knew all about the therapeutic tragedy that was going on in the country and that we had been members of FMSF for quite a while. It was then that she declared that her accusations had been false. We welcomed her back to the family with no reservations.

Today, our family is fully united and we all keep in contact with her. She is successful in her business. Last year we crossed the country to visit with her. The past problem was never mentioned.

A Mom



Last month we wrote about an article called "The Truth and Hype of Hypnosis" by Michael R. Nash that appeared in the July issue of *Scientific American*. A shortened version of the article is available on the web at:

[www.sciam.com/2001/0701issue/0701nash.html#author](http://www.sciam.com/2001/0701issue/0701nash.html#author)

## Eating Bones!

This is a story my six-year-old daughter told me after I picked her up from daycare. Great snacks are served in the afternoon and as we were walking home, I asked her what the snack was that day.

*Mom:* What did you have for snack today?

*Daughter:* Bones.

*Mom:* Bones? (I thought she might be talking about bone shaped cookies or bread sticks or candy.)

*Daughter:* Yeah, bones. They found a dead body behind the daycare today. She took out the guts and pulled the bones out. She brought them into the day care and cleaned them and cooked them.

*Mom:* She cooked them? (I started to have flashes of the stories kids have told in the past about day cares and how those ludicrous stories caused innocent people to go to jail.)

*Daughter:* Yeah, big ones, little ones.

*Mom:* Did they serve any dipping sauce? (This ghoulish story was getting too weird for me.)

*Daughter:* Yeah. (And so we continued talking about weird types of dipping sauces until I made her laugh.)

This just shows that children will make up the weirdest most disgusting stories all by themselves even without the aid of twisted helpers. Now I feel even more sympathy for the falsely accused day care providers.

Roma Hart

## Loving but No Retraction

The wonderful things that the Foundation has done for families stricken with this problem is unequalled anywhere. You helped my late wife and me a great deal. Thankfully our daughters returned in 1995; one year before my wife passed away from cancer.

Since then, I have remarried. Before we were married, I informed my fiancée about this issue and she went with me to an FMS meeting in Sacramento. However, she informed

her four children about this issue, which created quite a stir. To this day she warns me to be careful whenever we visit with any of her 8 grandchildren. In most cases I feel accepted; however, the mother of one of the spouses is making it very difficult.

Two years ago daughter A moved from LA to about 10 miles from me. Daughter B, still in LA, visits her sister and me every month or two. On one occasion about a year and a half ago, my wife confronted them about the FMS issue. Daughter B confirmed her belief that her grandfather had raped her and her sister. Daughter A just cried and said, hugging me, "I don't want to lose you again." They are still sharing a loving relationship with me but they haven't retracted.

A Dad

## We Have Put This Behind

I want to thank you for all you've done for us, for your dedication to the lives lost over this horrible injustice. My family and I have put this behind us now, though whenever the topic of memory/abuse comes up we speak up. I no longer want to continue to fight this battle. We won. I don't mean to be inconsiderate, but the devastation is not something I want to keep reliving. I guess that's the way it is with true abuse. You wish you couldn't remember!

A Mom and a Retractor

## Great News.

Our great friend of the Ohio group has donated her expertise to put our newsletter on line. It will be in the next newsletter, but I will give you a preview. You can get our newsletters from last December on by "dialing up."

[www.ltech.net/OHIOarmhp](http://www.ltech.net/OHIOarmhp)

[A] person's position toward UFOs and extraterrestrial beings may be determined largely by what he or she thinks that others believe. Such information about others' beliefs appears to be collected not only through direct social interaction but also through UFO-related activities involving media, such as reading a book on abductions or watching a television program about UFOs. Furthermore, it appears that the impact of media on the endorsement of specific UFO beliefs was mediated by the participants' individual differences in the capacity to use vivid mental imagery.

Patry, A.L. & Pelletier, L.G.  
"Extraterrestrial beliefs and experiences,"  
*Journal of St Psychology*, April, 2001.

*Mr. Richard Trask (Historian):* You know, we're not immune. We tend to think that the Puritans 300 years ago were kind of funny people. They dressed funny; they were very superstitious. How silly of them. But we have our own witch-hunts around here today that we have to be careful about.

*Tovia Smith (Reporter):* For example, Trask points to the national wave of child abuse prosecutions in the 1980s. Rather than going over ancient history of the witches, he says, better to focus on those who may still be wrongly imprisoned today.

*Mr. Richard Trask:* Many of these people who were jailed in the '80s got as much as a hundred, 200, 300 years of jail time. And it's not to say there isn't such a thing as child abuse, but when you see five or six people within a school are being accused and they're accused of killing animals and killing children and there's no physical evidence, and then you have the poor children come out and they're somewhat manipulated, it just smacks to me—it's so close to the witchcraft of 1692 that it's really scary.

National Public Radio, "All Things Considered," 7/18/01

**Annual Meeting of Ontario and Quebec  
Families, Friends and Professionals**

**RECONCILIATION AND EXONERATION:  
Where do we stand? What can be done?**

**Saturday November 3, 2001,  
Edwards Gardens, Toronto**

**For details call John at 905-432 2468 or  
Mavis at 450-537 8187**

**You Are Invited**

**Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society Meeting**

**Saturday October 13, 2001, 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
Bloomington, Illinois**

- **Karen and Charles Johnson** "History of 3rd-Party Lawsuits" • **Ken Merlino**, Attorney "Current Litigation in Illinois and Texas"

**For information: 847-827-1056**

**Web Sites of Interest**

<http://www.tmdArchives.org>  
The Memory Debate Archives

[www.francefms.com](http://www.francefms.com)  
French language website

[www.StopBadTherapy.com](http://www.StopBadTherapy.com)  
Contains phone numbers of professional  
regulatory boards in all 50 states

[www.IllinoisFMS.org](http://www.IllinoisFMS.org)  
Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society  
[www.ltech.net/OHIOarmhp](http://www.ltech.net/OHIOarmhp)  
Ohio Group

[www.afma.asn.au](http://www.afma.asn.au)  
Australian False Memory Association.

[www.bfms.org.uk](http://www.bfms.org.uk)  
British False Memory Society

[www.geocities.com/retractor](http://www.geocities.com/retractor)  
This site is run by Laura Pasley (retractor)

[www.geocities.com/therapyletters](http://www.geocities.com/therapyletters)  
This site is run by Deb David (retractor)

[www.sirs.com/uptonbooks/index.htm](http://www.sirs.com/uptonbooks/index.htm)  
Upton Books

[www.angelfire.com/tx/recoveredmemories/](http://www.angelfire.com/tx/recoveredmemories/)

Having trouble locating books about the recovered memory phenomenon?  
Recovered Memory Bookstore

[religioustolerance.org](http://religioustolerance.org)  
Information about Satanic Ritual Abuse

[www.geocities.com/newcosanz/](http://www.geocities.com/newcosanz/)  
New Zealand FMS Group

[www.werkgroepwfh.nl](http://www.werkgroepwfh.nl)  
Netherlands FMS Group

**Legal Websites of Interest**

- [www.findlaw.com](http://www.findlaw.com)
- [www.legalengine.com](http://www.legalengine.com)
- [www.accused.com](http://www.accused.com)

**From Rumor to Reason:**

**Accusations of Child Sexual Abuse: Current Scientific, Legal,  
and Cultural Perspectives**

A One-day seminar offering continuing education credit to Social Workers,  
(Psychologists, Psychiatrists, and Attorneys, pending)

**November 17, 2001  
University of Vermont**

- **Mark Pendergrast** - Memory Creation and Science • **Terence W. Campbell, Ph.D.** - Children, Suggestibility and Autobiographical Memory • **Jack Quattrocchi, Esq.** - The Roles of the Legal System and Experts

Students and interested non-professionals are welcome.

**FOR INFORMATION**

Kathy Begert, 1134 Rathburn Road, Wooster, OH 44691,  
phone: 330-263-7798. E-mail: KBegert846@aol.com

**Child Abuse Allegations in the Courts:  
Science & Reason vs. Myth & Emotion**

**Reno, Nevada**

**October 17-19, 2001**

Sponsored by the National Child Abuse Defense & Resource Center

This is the 10th NCADRC conference for legal professionals who defend people accused of child abuse. The focus is on children, child suggestibility and special laws applying to children.

Among the many outstanding speakers:

- **Carol Tavis, Ph.D.** Science vs. Pseudoscience in Expert Testimony: How to tell the difference. • **William Friedrich, Ph.D.** Normative Behaviors Found in Children. • **Debra Poole, Ph.D.** Children's Suggestibility. • **Melvin Guyer, Ph.D., J.D.** Uses and Misuses of Psychological Testing in Child Abuse Related Cases. • **Phillip Esplin, Ed.D.** Assessing the Statements and Testimony of Teenage Complainants. • **Nancy Diehl, J.D.** Questioning Children in Court. • **Richard Ofshe, Ph.D.** Improper Interrogation Techniques

**FOR INFORMATION**

NCADRC, P.O. Box 638, Holland, OH 43528. FAX 419-865-0526

## CONTACTS &amp; MEETINGS - UNITED STATES

## ALABAMA

Montgomery  
Marge 334-244-7891

## ALASKA

Kathleen 907-337-7821

## ARIZONA

Phoenix  
Pat 480-396-9420

## ARKANSAS

Little Rock  
Al & Lela 870-363-4368

## CALIFORNIA

Sacramento  
Joanne & Gerald 916-933-3655  
San Francisco & North Bay - (bi-MO)  
Charles 415-984-6626(am);  
415-435-9618(pm)  
San Francisco & South Bay  
Eric 408-245-4493  
East Bay Area  
Judy 925-376-8221

## Central Coast

Carole 805-967-8058  
Central Orange County  
Chris & Alan 949-733-2925  
Covina Area - 1st Mon. (quarterly)  
@7:30pm

Floyd & Libby 626-330-2321

## San Diego Area

Dee 760-439-4630

## COLORADO

Colorado Springs  
Doris 719-488-9738

## CONNECTICUT

S. New England -  
Earl 203-329-8365 or  
Paul 203-458-9173

## FLORIDA

Dade/Broward  
Madeline 954-966-4FMS  
Boca/Delray - 2nd & 4th Thurs (MO) @1pm  
Heleen 561-498-8684

Central Florida - Please call for mtg. time  
John & Nancy 352-750-5446

## Sarasota

Francis & Sally 941-342-8310

## Tampa Bay Area

Bob & Janet 727-856-7091

## GEORGIA

Atlanta  
Wallie & Jill 770-971-8917

## ILLINOIS

Chicago & Suburbs - 1st Sun. (MO)  
Eileen 847-985-7693 or  
Liz & Roger 847-827-1056

## Peoria

Bryant & Lynn 309-674-2767

## INDIANA

Indiana Assn. for Responsible Mental  
Health Practices  
Nickle 317-471-0922; fax 317-334-9839  
Pat 219-489-9987

## IOWA

Des Moines - 1st Sat. (MO) @11:30am

## Lunch

Betty & Gayle 515-270-6976

## KANSAS

Wichita - Meeting as called  
Pat 785-738-4840

## KENTUCKY

Louisville- Last Sun. (MO) @ 2pm  
Bob 502-367-1838

## MAINE

Rumbord -  
Carolyn 207-364-8891

Portland - 4th Sun. (MO)  
Wally & Bobby 207-878-9812

## MASSACHUSETTS/NEW ENGLAND

Andover - 2nd Sun. (MO) @ 1pm  
Frank 978-263-9795

## MICHIGAN

Grand Rapids Area - 1st Mon. (MO)  
Bill & Marge 616-383-0382

Greater Detroit Area -  
Nancy 248-642-8077

## Ann Arbor

Martha 734-439-8119

## MINNESOTA

Terry & Collette 507-642-3630

Dan & Joan 651-631-2247

## MISSOURI

Kansas City - Meeting as called  
Pat 785-738-4840

St. Louis Area - call for meeting time  
Karen 314-432-8789

Springfield - 4th Sat. Apr. Jul. Oct  
@12:30pm

Tom 417-753-4878

Roxie 417-781-2058

## MONTANA

Lee & Avone 406-443-3189

## NEW JERSEY

Sally 609-927-5343 (Southern)  
Nancy 973-729-1433 (Northern)

## NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque - 2nd Sat. (bi-MO) @ 1 pm  
Southwest Room - Presbyterian Hospital

Maggie 505-662-7521(after 6:30pm) or  
Sy 505-758-0726

## NEW YORK

Manhattan  
Michael 212-481-6655

Westchester, Rockland, etc.  
Barbara 914-761-3627

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Elaine 518-399-5749

## NORTH CAROLINA

Susan 704-538-7202

## OHIO

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Bob 513-541-0816 or 513-541-5272

## Cleveland

Bob & Carole 440-356-4544

Barbara 914-761-3627

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Rick & Renee 412-563-5509

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John 570-278-2040

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Jim & Jo 610-783-0396

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Kate 615-665-1160

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## VERMONT

Mark 802-872-0847

## VIRGINIA

Sue 703-273-2343

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Katie & Leo 414-476-0285 or  
Susanne & John 608-427-3686

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Vancouver & Mainland  
Ruth 604-925-1539

Victoria & Vancouver Island - 3rd Tues.  
(MO) @7:30pm

John 250-721-3219

## MANITOBA CANADA

Roma 204-275-5723

## ONTARIO, CANADA

London - 2nd Sun (bi-MO)  
Adriaan 519-471-6338

## Ottawa

Eileen 613-836-3294

## Warkworth

Ethel 705-924-2546

## Burlington

Ken & Marina 905-637-6030

## Waubushene

Paula 705-543-0318

## QUEBEC, CANADA

St. André Est.  
Mavis 450-537-8187

## AUSTRALIA

Roger: Phone & Fax 352-897-284

## ISRAEL

FMS ASSOCIATION fax-972-2-625-9282

## NETHERLANDS

Task Force FMS of Werkgroep Fictieve  
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Anna 31-20-693-5692

## NEW ZEALAND

Colleen 09-416-7443

## SWEDEN

Ake Moller FAX 48-431-217-90

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The British False Memory Society  
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## UNITED KINGDOM

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Deadline for the November/  
December Newsletter is October  
15. Meeting notices MUST be in  
writing and sent no later than two  
months prior to the meeting.

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